

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of using a dynamic computing environment (“DCE”) for a plurality of phases in a software lifecycle, the method comprising:

configuring the dynamic computing environment for a first phase in the plurality of

phases, wherein said configuring comprises

allocating a first subnet,

allocating a first computing device coupled to the subnet,

allocating a first storage device coupled to the first computing device, and

storing a first set of instructions on the first storage device;

using the configured dynamic computing environment in the first phase;

configuring the dynamic computing environment for a second phase in the plurality of

phases, wherein said configuring comprises

allocating a second subnet,

allocating a second computing device coupled to the subnet,

allocating a second storage device coupled to the second computing device,

and

storing a second set of instructions on the second storage device; and

using the configured dynamic computing environment in the second phase.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a development phase.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein using the configured dynamic computing environment comprises:

using the configured DCE for a first task; and

using the configured DCE simultaneously with the first task for a second task.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise an integration phase.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein using the configured dynamic computing environment for an integration phase comprises: ~~using the DCE for integrating the software.~~

executing the first set of instructions on the first computing device, wherein the first set of instructions causes a first set of information to be transmitted to a third computing device coupled to the first subnet; in response to the first set of information, executing a third set of instructions on the third computing device; and monitoring said executing the first and third set of instructions and a result of said executing the third set of instructions.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a testing phase.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, ~~wherein~~ further comprising: if said using the configured DCE in the first phase results in an error, re-provisioning re-configuring a clean environment in the configured DCE during the testing phase.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~[[,]]~~ wherein the plurality of phases comprises:

a beta testing phase, wherein

a first user performs said using the configured DCE in the first phase, and a second user performs said using the configured DCE in the second phase.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8[[,]] wherein during the beta testing phase,
said configuring the DCE dynamic computing environment comprises the first user
installing the first set of instructions software on the DCE, and, wherein
said using the configured DCE dynamic computing environment comprises the first
user beta testing the first set of instructions software using the DCE.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a staging phase.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein
configuring the dynamic computing environment comprises installing a new version of
the first set of instructions software, and wherein
using the configured dynamic computing environment comprises enabling access for at
least one user to the new version of the first set of instructions software.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a deployment phase.
13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein using the configured dynamic computing environment comprises:
testing the first set of instructions software; and
updating the first set of instructions software if updates are required.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the software lifecycle comprises a shrink-wrap lifecycle.
15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the software lifecycle comprises a web site lifecycle.
16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the software lifecycle comprises an ASP lifecycle.

17. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of using a dynamic computing environment (“DCE”) for a plurality of phases in a software lifecycle, wherein each phase in the plurality of phases in the software lifecycle includes computing resource requirements, the method~~ comprising:

- (a) sending a command to ~~a~~ the DCE to allocate ~~computing resources requirements~~ for a phase in a software lifecycle in the plurality of phases, wherein the resources include a subnet, a computing device, a storage device, and software;
- (b) configuring the DCE with the ~~computing resources requirements~~ for the phase, wherein said configuring comprises
coupling the subnet and the computing device,
coupling the computing device and the storage device, and
installing the software on the storage device;
- (c) performing the phase using the configured DCE; and
- (d) repeating steps (a) – (c) for each of a ~~the~~ plurality of phases in the software lifecycle.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the plurality of phases comprise at least one of a development stage, integration stage, testing stage, beta testing stage, beta deployment stage, and deployment stage.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the software lifecycle comprises at least one of a web site lifecycle, an application service provider lifecycle, and a shrink-wrap lifecycle.

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~for performing for a plurality of phases in a software lifecycle, the method~~ comprising:

a dynamic computing environment (“DCE”), wherein
the DCE comprises a virtual subnet and a plurality of virtual computing
devices;

instructions for configuring the dynamic computing environment for a first phase in the plurality of phases, the instructions comprising

instructions for allocating a first network resource to the virtual subnet,
instructions for allocating a first computing device to the plurality of virtual
computing devices and coupling the first computing device to the
network resource,
instructions for allocating a first storage device to the plurality of virtual
computing devices and coupling the first storage device to the first
computing device, and
instructions for storing a first software on the first storage device;
instructions for using the configured dynamic computing environment in the first phase;
instructions for configuring the dynamic computing environment for a second phase in
the plurality of phases, the instructions comprising
instructions for allocating a second network resource to the virtual subnet,
instructions for allocating a second computing device to the plurality of
virtual computing devices and coupling the second computing device
to the network resource,
instructions for allocating a second storage device to the plurality of virtual
computing devices and coupling the second storage device to the
second computing device, and
instructions for storing a second software on the second storage device; and
instructions for using the configured dynamic computing environment in the second
phase.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~for using a dynamic computing environment (“DCE”) for a plurality of phases in a software lifecycle, wherein each phase in the plurality of phases in the software lifecycle include computing resource requirements, the apparatus~~ comprising:

- (a) instructions for sending a command to ~~a~~ the DCE to allocate ~~computing resources requirements~~ for a phase in a software lifecycle, wherein ~~in the plurality of phases~~
the resources include a subnet, a computing device, a storage device, and
software;

- (b) instructions for configuring the DCE with the ~~computing~~ resources ~~requirements~~ for the phase, wherein
said configuring comprises
 - coupling the subnet and the computing device,
 - coupling the computing device and the storage device, and
 - installing the software on the storage device;
- (c) instructions for performing the phase using the configured DCE; and
- (d) instructions for repeating steps (a) – (c) for each of a ~~the~~ plurality of phases in the software lifecycle.